

Briefings
OLC-78-2908
August 2, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR:

S/A, DCI

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FROM: Fred Hitz

SUBJECT: Chairmen's Representatives Breakfast with
the DCI on Friday, 4 August 1978

The DCI asked me to provide you with my thoughts on his preparation for the Chairmen's Representatives Breakfast on 4 August.

The important thing to note is that the agenda is completely within our control. I suggest the Director discuss the subject of leaks. In this, I think it is important that he reason with the staff counsel and AAs present on the problem. Most people with any longevity on the Hill recognize that leaks occur more often from the Executive Branch than they do from the Legislative Branch. If the Director approaches this as a common problem about which we should all be concerned, I think he will have greater success.

Secondly, I think he should speak no longer than ten to fifteen minutes. He should then turn the meeting over to questions and answers. This is a very knowledgeable and influential audience which is by no means homogeneous. In many instances, they are those on whom senior members of the Senate rely the most for political advice and guidance. If they take to a speaker, as I am sure they will to the Director if he speaks openly and directly and in a consultatory manner, he will make some friends who will stand us in very good stead in upcoming legislative battles.

The meeting is entirely off the record. It is in an open breakfast room beneath the Senate floor and thus is not the most secure room on Capitol Hill. If the Director cautions them to keep his remarks in confidence, I believe that those likely to be present will honor his request. I think he should speak frankly about problems which leaks have caused us but I would not think it appropriate to go into classified material. I feel that a discussion of leaks will be a prelude to questions about the viability of intelligence organizations in modern-day America and could lead to a discussion of the prospects for Charters. I envision this to be a relaxed and friendly setting, although there will be Chief Counsels and AAs present who represent the likes of Bill Proxmire, et al. I think it appropriate for you to attend.

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